

FRIENDS OF VAUXHALL PARK NEWSLETTER No. 25



We are delighted that, despite the severity of the cutbacks in the Park Department's Budget, Vauxhall Park continues to thrive. We are extremely sorry that Richard and George, our gardeners will no longer be based in the park but delighted that George will be able to use his expertise on the park as part of the specialist horticultural mobile team, who will visit the park on a regular basis. Litter picking and grass mowing will continue to be done and the Friends of Vauxhall Park hope to use their excellent working relationship with the Council to ensure that the very highest standards of upkeep are maintained. We are very grateful to our Parks Officer, Mickey Penney, for all his enthusiasm and hard work on the park's behalf.

Summer Fair

The Summer Fair will be held on Sunday 19th June 2-5pm. There will be donkey rides, a bouncy slides, games galore for the children, stalls, refreshments and ice creams, go karting, crazy golf, fortune telling and plenty more – please do come and join us but visitors to previous fairs will know to be cautious of the mysterious squirting wheelie bin (which will be joined by another surprise attraction from the fabulous Bureau of Silly Ideas)! We would like to run a plant stall again this year but need plant donations. Please contact Polly Freeman 07901 855887 if you are able to give us your own plants to sell or could buy plants for us to sell. We also need lots of volunteers to help us on the day, please contact Polly if you are able to help.

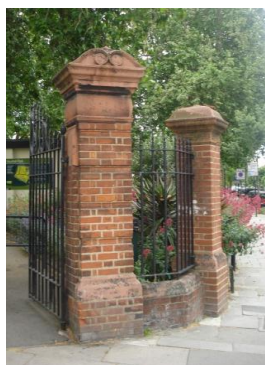


Easter Egg Hunt



We are very grateful to Louise Norwood and Sophie Hunter Kotch for running the Easter Egg Hunt this year. Approximately 200 children found nearly 600 eggs on a beautiful spring morning. It was a perfect occasion for the community to come together and enjoy our beautiful park. We would also like to thank their team of volunteers who gave their time to ensure it was a successful event.

Current Maintenance Projects



The FOVP are pleased that Lambeth Council have agreed to appoint David Ball Restoration to repair the damaged gate pillar (which was the result of a car accident). This is the only remaining original Victorian gate pillar, so it was very important that the restoration was done by a team of experts. DBR have worked on previous projects in the park and recently restored Nelson's Column. The correct materials are currently being sourced and we hope work will start soon. We are very pleased that the new dog area has been installed and, in the true spirit of our times, the railings, benches and dog poo bins were all recycled from other parks. We are grateful to Mickey Penney's ingenuity. We hope that having the two separate areas is an improvement on the old exercise area and our dog friends are enjoying the new arrangements. We hope to smarten it up with a lick of paint in the near future



Sponsorship opportunities

One of the major casualties of the recent council cuts will be displays of bedding around the model village on the edge of the lavender garden. Rather than lose these wonderful displays which are so important to the on-going interest of the park, we would like to invite local companies or individuals to sponsor the planting in this area. The Parks Department have given us costing for maintaining these areas and we would very much like to hear from you if you are interested in supporting the park in this way. We would also like to get the fountain, which is another victim of the cuts, to be switched on – would your company or you and your neighbours help us out? Please contact Helen Monger, who also can help with new benches and trees, through our website www.vauxhallpark.org.



FUTURE DATES

Open Meeting: 1st October at 10.30am

AGM: 21 January 2012 at 10.30am

Both at the Ashmole Tenants Hall, Meadow Road